TOXONOMIC NOTES ON THE YPONOMEUTID GENERA *PSYCHROMNESTRA* AND MACROPHANTA* (LEPIDOPTERA: YPONOMEUTIDAE)

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Recently I had an opportunity of studying the specimens of *Psychromnestra isoniphas* Meyrick and *Macrophanta aulosema* Meyrick by the courtesy of Drs. Klaus Sattler and P. E. S. Whalley, to whem I am much indebted for allowing me to examine them in the collection of the British Museum (Natural History). The two species are the type-species of the genera and occur in India. Close examination of the specimens of the two revealed that the genus *Psychromnestra* Meyrick is closely related to *Ypsolophus* Fabricius and its allies, and that the genus *Macrophanta* Mayrick falls as a synonym of *Swammerdamia* Hübner.

Psychromnestra Meyrick

Psychromnestra Meyrick, 1924, p. 88. —Fletcher, 1929, p. 190. Type-species: Psychromnestra isoniphas Meyrick, 1924, by original designation.

The genitalia are illustrated for the first time.

Male genitalia (fig. 2): Uncus undeveloped. Socius stout, dilated posteriorly. Tuba analia weakly sclerotized on ventral surface. Anellus large, tube-like, densely clothed with microscopic teeth, mixed with some microscopic spines. Gnathos with slender arm, not forming a ventral plate. Valva simple, almost parallel-sided, the distal corner being armed with several small tooth-like spines; sacculus scarsely defined. Vinculum large, Y-shaped. Aedeagus longer than valva; cornutus an elongate-oval sclerotized plate with several denticles. Coremata present.

Female genitalia (fig. 3): Papilla analis narrow. Intersegmental memberane between papilla analis and 8th abdominal segment long. Apophysis posterioris very long, much longer than apophysis anterioris, the latter being brached. Lamella postvaginalis moderately sclerotized. Ostium caudally produced into a distinct, tongue-shaped, strongly scleroctized process. Bursa copulatrix rather small; antrum sclerotized, with a deep median slit; ductus bursae with the posterior 2/3 weakly sclerotized, compactly studded with minute subconical teeth, and the anterior 1/3 membranous, densely studded with very minute subconical teeth; corpus brusae oval, membranous; signum a small sclerotized plate; inception of ductus seminalis between antrum and ductus bursae.

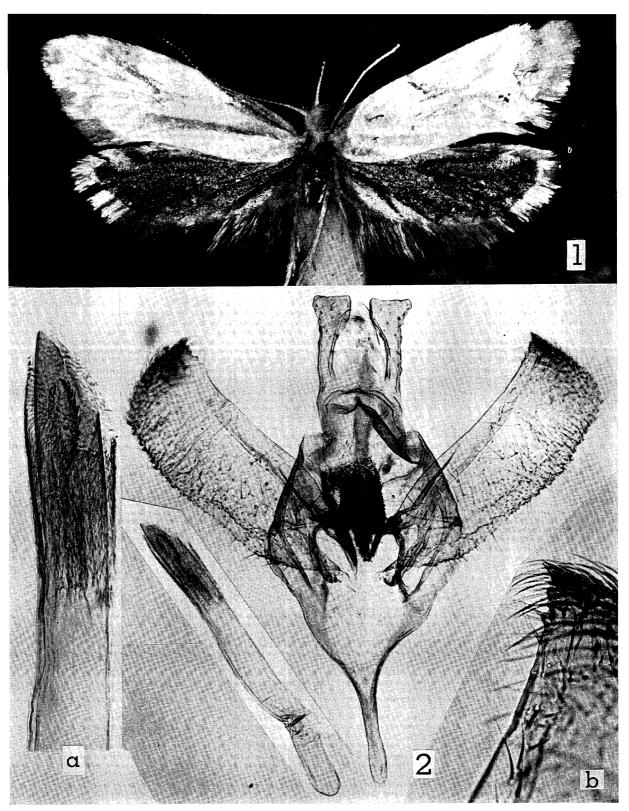
Abdomen without spines on tergite.

Remarks: This genus is closely related to Ypsolophus Fabricius and the allied genera (e.g., Rhabdocosma Meyrick and Phrealcia Chrétien) in having the long-stalked veins Rs and M₁ in the hindwing, but may be easily distinguished from them, in the male genitalia, by the stout saccus, by the gnathos without the ventral plate, by the large vinuclum and by the cornutus being one sclerotized plate, and, in the female, by the ostium with a distinct caudal process.

This genus was erected by Meyrick (1924) for three Indian species, namely, *Psychromnestra isoniphas* Meyrick (type-species of the genus), *P. phaeothicta* Meyrick (1924, p. 89) and *P. hebaea* Meyrick (1924, p. 89). I have seen no specimens of *phaeothicta* and *hebaea*; both species were originally described from a female specimen, taken at Muktesar, Kumaon.

Psychromnestra isoniphas Meyrick (Figs. 1—3)

Psychromnestra isoniphas Meyrick, 1924, p. 88-89. Meyrick, 1932, p. 340. Fletcher, 1933, p. 64.



Figs. 1—2. Psychromnestra isoniphas Meyrick: (1) 3; (2) 3 gentialia: (a) apical protion of aedeagus; (b) distal portion of valva.

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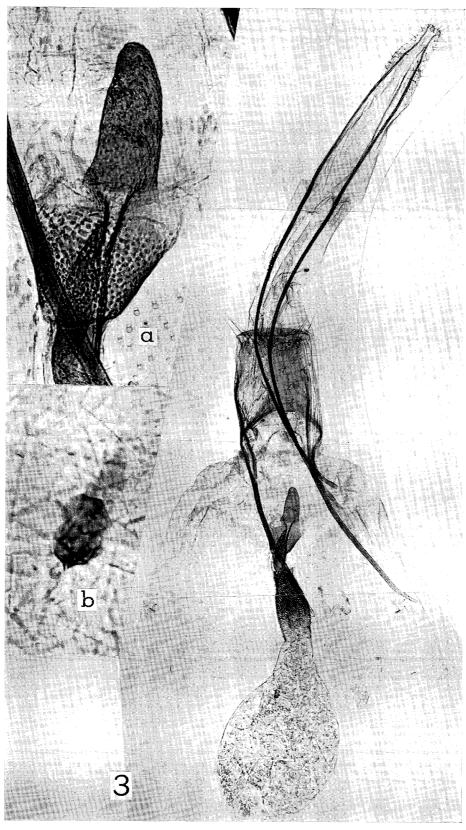


Fig. 3. Psychromnestra isoniphas Meyrick, ♀ genitalia: (a) ostium; (b) signum.

Male genitalia (fig. 2): As describbed for the genus.

Female genitalia (fig. 3): As described for the genus. Signum with a small anterior point.

Type: Probably lost.

Type-locality: Gulmarg, Kashmir, India.

Specimens examined: 13, "Kashmir/Killanmarg/10500 ft./26. VII. 31/Fletcher Coll.," "BM. Genitalia slide 19493 3." 12, "at light/Kashmir/Gulmarg/28. VII. 31/Fletcher Coll.," "BM. Genitalia slide 19494 2."

Distribution: India (Kashmir).

Host-plant: Fletcher (1933, p. 64) worte on the biology: "In Gulmarg moths were beaten from *Lonicera* orientalis, of which leaves were rolled in June by a larvea (presumably of this species) which I failed to rear, and an empty pupa, encloed in a network cocoon, was also found in a rolled leaf in July. At Killanmarg the moths were found associated with another species of *Lonicera*."

Remarks: I have not seen the type of *isoniphas* but am satisfied that specimens in the collection of the British Museum (Natural History) determined by Meyrick as it are correctly named.

Swammerdamia Hübner

Swammerdamia Hübner, 1826, p. 425. Type-species: [Phalaena Tinea pyrella de Villers, 1789 =] Tinea cerasiella Hübner, 18[10—13], by subsequent designation (Fletcher, 1929, p. 212).

Swammerdammia Heinemann, 1870, p. 104 (amended spelling for Swammerdamia).

Macrophanta Meyrick, 1932, p. 339, n. syn. Type-species: Macrophanta aulosema Meyrick, 1932, by monotypy.

[Macrophanta Meyrick]

Macrophanta Meyrick becomes a junior synonym of Swammerdamia Hübner, since the type-species of both genera are congenreic and Swammerdamia is the earlier name.

Swammerdamia aulosema (Meyrick), n. comb. (Figs. 4—6)

Macrophanta aulosema Meyrick, 1932, p. 339.

In the original description of the monotypic genus *Macrophanta*, Meyrick wrote: ".....ocelli posterior; Labial palpi short, slightly curved, subascending, smooth-scaled, second joint rather short, terminal joint longer than second, pointed. Maxillary palpi absent.;" on examination of *aulosema*, however, these characters are amended as follows: ocellus absent; labila palpus rather long, the terminal segment being much longer than second one; maxillary palpus minute. Hindwing without a hyaline space beneath cell at base. Hind tibia with median spur at middle.

The genitalia have hitherto been unknown.

Male genitalia (fig. 5): Socius slender. Gnathos with ventral plate large, sclerotized, and armed with spinules in apical area. Valva not armed with any strong setae, the dorsal margin being gently arched in middle; distal corner forming an acute angle; sacculus well defined, rather short, elongate-oval. Saccus rather short, somewhat dilated anteriorly. Aedeagus gently curved, about 1% times as long as valva; cornuti composed of two short rows of spinules.

Female genitalia: Not studied.

Type: Described from 15 syntypes, all of which are in the British Museum (Natural History).

Type-locality: Killanmarg, Kashmir, India.

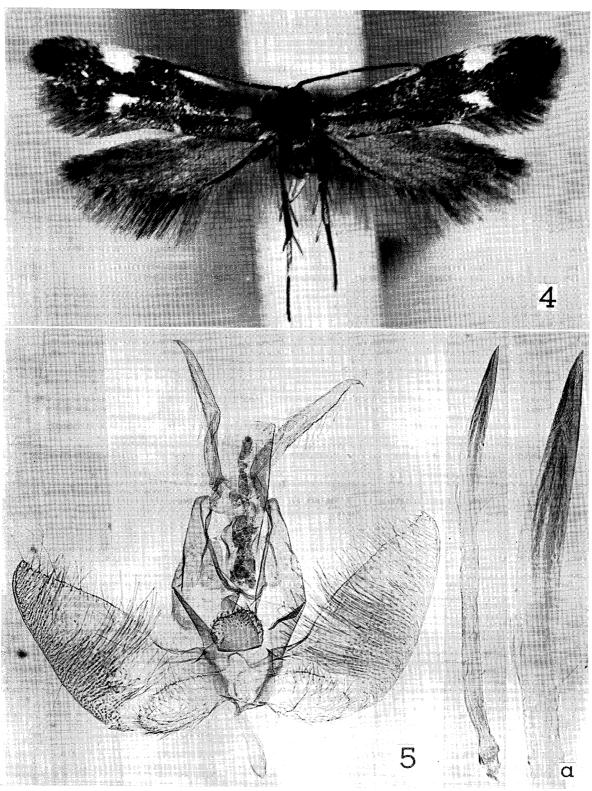
Specimen examined: Syntype 13, with following lables: "Kashmir/Killanmarg/10500 ft. /26. VII. 31/Fletcher Coll.," "Macrophanta/aulosema/Meyr. 1932/COTYPE," "Presented by /R.L.E.Ford./B.M. 1949-487.," "BM. Genitalia slide 19479 3."

Distribution: India (Kashmir).

Host-plant: Unknown.

Remarks: This species is easily recognized by the dark bronze forewing with distinct white costal and dorsal spots.

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Figs. 4—5. Swammerdamia aulosema (Meyrick): (4) &; (5) & genitalia: (a) apical portion of aedeagus.

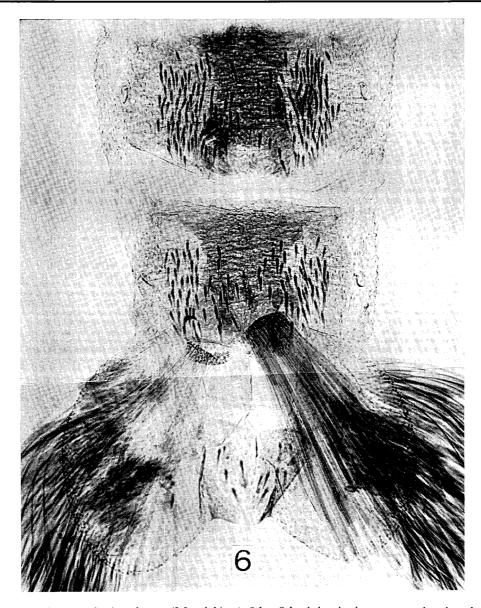


Fig. 6. Swammerdamia aulosema (Meyrick), 3, 6th—8th abdominal segments, showing the presence of tergal spines.

References

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